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Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A method comprising:

receiving a formatted document, the formatted document having formatted text comprising a plurality of words, each word comprising one or more characters, each character having a character appearance defined by one or more font properties and each word having a word appearance defined by the font properties of its characters, the formatted document being formatted on one or more pages, and each word having a fixed position relative to one of the one or more pages;

partitioning the formatted text into a plurality of groups of words based on the fixed positions of the words relative to their respective pages, the font properties of the words, or both;

assigning an element from a predefined set of markup language elements to each of two or more groups in the plurality of groups of words, the assigning being based on the fixed positions of the words relative to their respective pages, the font properties of the words, or both;

after the element is assigned to each of two or more groups of words, deriving an element style for the assigned element, the element style comprising a character style, a layout style or both, the character style being derived from the font properties of the characters of the words in the two or more groups of words to which the element is assigned, and the layout style being derived from the text properties of the two or more groups of words to which the element is assigned; and

creating an electronic document comprising a style sheet defining the element style.

2. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the text is partitioned into groups of words according to the fixed positions of the words relative to their respective pages and the element is assigned solely on the basis of the fixed positions of the words relative to their respective pages.